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## University of Richmond Orchestra

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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# University of Richmond Orchestra

Fred Cohen *Music Director and Conductor*

April 14, 1999  
Camp Concert Hall  
8:00 pm  
Free and Open to the Public

## PROGRAM

*Kindertotenlieder (Songs on the Death of Children)*  
after poems by Friedrich Rückert

Gustav Mahler  
(1860-1911)

1. Nun will die Sonn' so hell aufgehn
2. Nun seh'ich wohl, warum so dunkle Flammen
3. Wenn dein Mütterlein tritt zur Tür herein
4. Oft denk'ich, sie sind nur ausgegangen
5. In diesem Wetter, in diesem Braus

Martha Slay *mezzo-soprano*

*intermission*

Symphony No. 3 (*Eroica*)

Ludwig van Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

1. Allegro con brio
2. Marcia funebre
3. Scherzo
4. Allegro molto

## PERSONNEL

### FIRST VIOLIN

Jane Hoffman *concertmistress*  
Ilan McNamara  
Chung-In Park  
Julie Hayes  
Jessica Gilmore  
Kim Forquer  
Julia Blatzer  
Mason-Leigh Morris  
Jack Gauntlett

### SECOND VIOLIN

Aaron Aunins *principal*  
Rebecca Pinkham  
Lisa Rondinelli  
Emily D'Antonio  
Amy Zajink  
Judy Shim  
Luther Stringham

### VIOLA

Miriam Albin *principal*  
Jennifer Bernard  
Molly McElroy  
Tom Calder  
John Little  
Judy Cohen

### CELLO

James Tripp *principal*  
John Jorgenson  
Matthew McCabe  
Shayne Estes  
Tobias Friedl  
Adam Kerr  
Jessica Lai

### BASS

Leslie Rose *principal*  
Delbert Williams  
Joe LaPaglia

### FLUTE

Carrie Senn *principal*  
Marianne Broderick  
Misty Willard

### PICCOLO

Marianne Broderick

### OBOE

Jennifer Magee *principal*  
Meghan Pesch  
Amy Pickering

### ENGLISH HORN

Jennifer Magee

### CLARINET

Stephen Ahearn *principal*  
Elaine Bucheimer  
Betsy Plunket

### BASS CLARINET

Stephen Ahearn

### BASSOON

Stephanie Allen *principal*  
Megan Smith

### FRENCH HORN

Ed Aunins *principal*  
Mary Beth Hall  
Robert Caudle  
Ruth Aumins

### TRUMPET

Dana Rajczewski *principal*  
Jeff Elbich

### HARP

Dana Wallace

### CELESTE

Dreama Lovitt

### TIMPANI

John Hubbard

## **TRANSLATIONS**

### **1. Nun will die Sonn' so hell aufgeh'n**

Now will the sun as brightly rise  
As though no evil befell last night!

The evil befell just me alone;  
The sun, it shines on all mankind!

You must not enfold the night within you;  
You must immerse it in eternal light!

A lamp has gone out in my abode;  
Hail to the whole world's gladdening light!

### **2. Nun set'ich wohl, warum so dunkle Flammen**

Now I see clearly, O eyes, why such dark  
flames  
So often leapt out at me  
As if you wanted to concentrate  
The whole sum of your strength in a single  
look.

Yet I never suspected (because of the mists that  
hovered round me,  
All spun by the deceitful loom of fate),  
That those bright beams already sought to  
journey  
Back home - to the place where every beam  
originates.

You wanted with your shining light to tell me:  
'We'd dearly love to stay here by you,  
But this our destiny denies us.  
Ah look at us, for soon we'll be far from you!

'What are but eyes to you, these present days,  
In nights to come will be to you but stars.'

### **3. Wenn dein Mütterlein**

When your dear mother  
comes in through the door,  
And I turn my head,  
To look across at her,  
'Tis not on her face  
That my glance falls first,  
But upon that place,  
Nearer to the floor,  
There, where your dear face  
Always used to be,  
When all bright with joy  
You would come in with her,  
In bygone days, my dear daughter!

When your dear mother  
Comes in through the door  
In her candle's shimmer,  
It's as though you always  
Came in with her too,  
Toddling after her,  
As you used to do.  
O you, your father's flesh and blood,  
Ah, gladdening light  
Too swiftly extinguished!

### **4. Oft denk'ich, sie sind nur ausgegangen!**

How often I think they're just out walking;  
They won't be much longer, they'll soon be  
returning  
The day is fine, O never fear!  
They're only taking the long way back.

O yes, they've only gone out walking,  
And even now they must be returning.  
O never fear, the day is fine!  
They're only taking the path into the hills!

They've only started out before us  
And won't come back home at all!  
We'll soon overtake them, up on the hills,  
In the sunshine! The day is fine upon the hills!

### **5. In diesem Wetter, in diesem Braus,**

In this grim weather, this raging storm  
I'd never have sent the children outside!  
But they've taken them out of the house.  
I had no say in the matter.

In this grim weather, this howling gale,  
I'd never have let the children outside,  
I'd fear they might catch an illness;  
Now these are but idle thoughts.

In this grim weather, this dreadful blast,  
I'd never have dared let the children outside.  
I'd fear they might die tomorrow  
Now this is no cause for worry.

In this grim weather, this howling raging  
storm,  
They rest, as if in their mother's house.  
No storm can now frighten them,  
The hand of God protects them,  
They rest as if in their mother's house!

## PROGRAM NOTES

Gustav Mahler was born on July 7, 1860 in Kalischt, Bohemia. His parents had fourteen children, eight of whom died in infancy. He was fourteen when his favorite brother Ernst died at the age of twelve. In 1875 Mahler moved to Vienna to study music at the conservatory of the Friends of Music. He embarked on a long career as a conductor, making his American debut in 1908 when he conducted at the Metropolitan Opera. He composed nine symphonies and began a tenth.

Mahler started to compose *Kindertotenlieder* in 1901 and finished the cycle in 1904. His first daughter, Maria Anna, was born in 1902 and she died five years later of scarlet fever and diphtheria. Mahler was never able to conduct the *Kindertotenlieder* after the death of his daughter. He died four years later on May 18, 1911. Poet Friedrich Rückert was born in 1788 in Schweinfurt, Germany and he died in 1866 in Neusen, Germany. He studied philosophy and published his first notable poetry in 1814.

Rückert married Luise Fischer in 1820 and together they had ten children; only seven outlived their parents. In December, 1833, his only daughter and youngest child died of scarlet fever at the age of three and sixteen days later his second youngest child, Ernst, died of the same illness. Rückert wrote 425 poems, which he called *Kindertotenlieder* in the six months after the death of his children. Seven decades later Gustav Mahler chose five of the poems for his monumental song cycle. It is interesting to note that each poem he chose to set to music deals with light and darkness, symbolizing eternal life and death.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Mezzo-soprano **Martha Slay** studied under Eileen Farrell at Indiana University where she received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in vocal performance. She has performed with opera companies and orchestras in Dallas; Cincinnati; Pittsburgh; Washington; Central City, Colorado; Tulsa; Winston-Salem; and Caracas, Venezuela. The mother of three, she is President of Andrew's Buddies, a nonprofit corporation which has raised more than one million dollars for research to defeat spinal muscular atrophy, a crippling neuromuscular disorder that affects her oldest son, Andrew. In 1998, Ms. Slay received the Richmond-area YWCA's Award for Outstanding Volunteer for her accomplishments.

Conductor and composer **Fred Cohen** has led the University of Richmond Orchestra since 1986. An award winning composer, his works have been performed by orchestras and chamber ensembles throughout the United States and abroad. He is Associate Professor and Chair of the Dept. of Music at the University of Richmond.